

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An illumination apparatus illuminating
an objective illumination region, comprising:

5 a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting
surfaces radiating diffused light;

an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants
are disposed so as to be set in array on the
circumference;

10 at least one optical member configured to guide
the diffused light to the objective illumination
region;

a movable section configured to drive the optical
member so as to be rotatable around the center of the
circumference serving as a rotation center; and

15 a lighting control section configured to control a
light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants,
wherein

the movable section and the lighting control
section operate together such that the quantity of
20 light per unit time of the diffused light guided to the
objective illumination region is within a predetermined
range.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
the lighting control section lights the illuminants
25 whose light-emitting surfaces are positioned at an area
on the illuminant substrate which is guided by the
optical member.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a number of the illuminants which are lit is always the same number.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
5 the number of the illuminants disposed on the illuminant substrate is an odd number,

two of the optical member are made to be one set, and at least one of the set is provided, and

10 the optical member of the respect sets guides the diffused light radiated at a position on the circumference which is point symmetrical with respect to the rotation center, to the objective illumination region.

5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
15 the number of the illuminants disposed on the illuminant substrate is an even number,

two of the optical member are made to be one set, and at least one of the set is provided, and

20 the optical member of the respect sets guides the diffused light radiated from the illuminant positioned at a position which is point symmetrical with respect to the rotation center, to the objective illumination region.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1, further
25 comprising:

a radiating section configured to radiate heat generated by the plurality of illuminants; and

a radiating exhaust member configured to exhaust
air contacting with the radiating section, wherein
a driving force source moving the radiating
exhaust member and the movable section are the same
5 motor.

7. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein
the radiating exhaust member includes a centrifugal fan
generating the flow of air by rotation of the motor.

8. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein
10 the centrifugal fan includes a scirocco fan.

9. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
antireflection processing is applied to a surface on
which the diffused light which is not incident to the
optical member is illuminated.

10. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
15 light shield processing is applied to prevent the
diffused light which is not incident to the optical
member from leaking out of the apparatus.

11. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
20 light guiding members configured to guide the diffused
light radiated by the illuminant to the optical member
are disposed for the respective illuminants.

12. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein
outgoing end surfaces of the light guiding members
25 radiating light with respect to the optical member are
disposed without space on a circumference whose
diameter is smaller than that of the circumference.

13. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the light guiding members include tapered rods.

14. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the incident surface of the optical member is
5 smaller than the light-emitting surfaces of the respective illuminants,

the light guiding member includes:

a NA conversion section configured to make an NA to which the outgoing light from the light-emitting
10 surface is incident small; and

an inverted tapered rod to which the ray whose NA is made small by the NA conversion section is incident, and

the inverted tapered rod is a rod in which a size
15 of the outgoing surface thereof is the substantially same size as the incident surface of the optical member, and the outgoing surface thereof is smaller than the incident surface.

15. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein
20 the NA conversion section includes a tapered rod.

16. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the NA conversion section includes a microprism array.

17. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the NA conversion section includes a plurality
25 light guiding prisms disposed in the vicinity of the illuminant in the positional relationship so as to be point symmetrical with respect to the center of the

illuminant, and

the light guiding prism includes:

an incident surface configured to make the
outgoing light from the illuminant be incident;

5 a reflecting surface configured to reflect
the light incident from the incident surface and
guiding the light in the prism to a predetermined
direction; and

10 an outgoing surface configured to radiate the
light guided at the reflecting surface.

18. The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein
the reflecting surface has a surface shape satisfying
the conditions that the light incident from the
incident surface is reflected.

15 19. The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein
reflection coating reflecting the light incident from
the incident surface is applied on the reflecting
surface.

20 20. The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein
reflection coating is applied on surfaces which face
the other light guiding prisms and which are other than
the incident surface, the reflecting surface, and
outgoing surface, among the surfaces structuring the
light guiding prism.

25 21. The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein a
rear surface of the reflecting surface structuring the
light guiding prism has a surface shape satisfying

conditions that the outgoing light from the illuminant which is not incident to the incident surface which is a surface structuring the light guiding prism is reflected.

5 22. The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein reflection coating reflecting the outgoing light from the illuminant which is not incident to the incident surface which is a surface structuring the light guiding prism is applied on the rear surface of the reflecting surface structuring the light guiding prism.

10 23. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

 a light quantity monitor configured to detect the quantity of the light radiated from the optical member, wherein

15 the movable section and the lighting control section operate together such that the quantity of light detected by the light quantity monitor is substantially constant.

20 24. The apparatus according to claim 23, further comprising:

 a microreflecting prism configured to reflect the light radiated from the optical member; and

25 a light guiding plate configured to guide the light reflected by the microreflecting prism, to the light quantity monitor.

 25. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the plurality of illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on double circumferences, and

the at least one optical member is disposed so as to correspond to the respective double circumferences.

5 26. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the optical member includes a tapered rod in which an area of the outgoing end surface thereof is larger than an area of the incident end surface thereof.

10 27. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a second optical member to which the light radiated from the outgoing end surfaces of the plurality of optical member are incident, wherein

15 the second optical member includes a tapered rod, the tapered rod being fixed to the illuminant substrate and having an outgoing end surface shape which is the substantially same shape as a shape of the objective illumination region.

20 28. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the outgoing end surface of the optical member is one of a polygon and a circular in which the rotation center of the movable section serves as the center thereof.

25 29. An illumination apparatus illuminating an objective illumination region, comprising:

a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on the circumference;

5 at least one optical member configured to guide the diffused light to the objective illumination region;

a movable section configured to drive the plurality of optical member so as to be rotatable around the center of the circumference serving as a rotation center; and
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a lighting control section configured to control a light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants, wherein

the movable section and the lighting control section operate together such that an area of the light-emitting surface emitting the diffused light for the light guided to the illumination region is within a predetermined range in variations in time.
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30. The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the lighting control section lights the illuminants whose light-emitting surfaces are positioned at an area on the illuminant substrate which is guided by the optical member.
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31. The apparatus according to claim 30, wherein a number of the illuminants which are lit is always the same number.
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32. The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein

the number of the illuminants disposed on the
illuminant substrate is an odd number,

two of the optical member are made to be one set,
and at least one of the set is provided, and

5 the optical member of the respect sets guides the
diffused light radiated at a position on the
circumference which is point symmetrical with respect
to the rotation center, to the objective illumination
region.

10 33. The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein
the number of the illuminants disposed on the
illuminant substrate is an even number,

two of the optical member are made to be one set,
and at least one of the set is provided, and

15 the optical member of the respect sets guides the
diffused light radiated from the illuminant positioned
at a position which is point symmetrical with respect
to the rotation center, to the objective illumination
region.

20 34. The apparatus according to claim 29, further
comprising:

a radiating section configured to radiate heat
generated by the plurality of illuminants; and

25 a radiating exhaust member configured to exhaust
air contacting with the radiating section, wherein

a driving force source moving the radiating
exhaust member and the movable section are the same

motor.

35. The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the radiating exhaust member includes a centrifugal fan generating the flow of air by rotation of the motor.

5 36. The apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the centrifugal fan includes a scirocco fan.

37. The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein antireflection processing is applied to a surface on which the diffused light which is not incident to the optical member is illuminated.

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38. The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein light shield processing is applied to prevent the diffused light which is not incident to the optical member from leaking out of the apparatus.

15 39. The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein light guiding members configured to guide the diffused light radiated by the illuminant to the optical member are disposed for the respective illuminants.

40. The apparatus according to claim 39, wherein outgoing end surfaces of the light guiding members radiating light with respect to the optical member are disposed without space on a circumference whose diameter is smaller than that of the circumference.

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41. The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the light guiding members include tapered rods.

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42. The apparatus according to claim 39, wherein the incident surface of the optical member is

smaller than the light-emitting surfaces of the
respective illuminants,

the light guiding member includes:

a NA conversion section configured to make an
5 NA to which the outgoing light from the light-emitting
surface is incident small; and

an inverted tapered rod to which the ray
whose NA is made small by the NA conversion section is
incident, and

10 the inverted tapered rod is a rod in which a size
of the outgoing surface thereof is the substantially
same size as the incident surface of the optical
member, and the outgoing surface thereof is smaller
than the incident surface.

15 43. The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein
the NA conversion section includes a tapered rod.

44. The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein
the NA conversion section includes a microprism array.

45. The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein
20 the NA conversion section includes a plurality
light guiding prisms disposed in the vicinity of the
illuminant in the positional relationship so as to be
point symmetrical with respect to the center of the
illuminant, and

25 the light guiding prism includes:

an incident surface configured to make the
outgoing light from the illuminant be incident;

a reflecting surface configured to reflect the light incident from the incident surface and guiding the light in the prism to a predetermined direction; and

5 an outgoing surface configured to radiate the light guided at the reflecting surface.

46. The apparatus according to claim 45, wherein the reflecting surface has a surface shape satisfying the conditions that the light incident from the
10 incident surface is reflected.

47. The apparatus according to claim 45, wherein reflection coating reflecting the light incident from the incident surface is applied on the reflecting surface.

15 48. The apparatus according to claim 45, wherein reflection coating is applied on surfaces which face the other light guiding prisms and which are other than the incident surface, the reflecting surface, and outgoing surface, among the surfaces structuring the
20 light guiding prism.

49. The apparatus according to claim 45, wherein a rear surface of the reflecting surface structuring the light guiding prism has a surface shape satisfying conditions that the outgoing light from the illuminant
25 which is not incident to the incident surface which is a surface structuring the light guiding prism is reflected.

50. The apparatus according to claim 45, wherein reflection coating reflecting the outgoing light from the illuminant which is not incident to the incident surface which is a surface structuring the light
5 guiding prism is applied on the rear surface of the reflecting surface structuring the light guiding prism.

51. The apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising:

10 a light quantity monitor configured to detect the quantity of the light radiated from the optical member, wherein

the movable section and the lighting control section operate together such that the quantity of light detected by the light quantity monitor is
15 substantially constant.

52. The apparatus according to claim 51, further comprising:

a microreflecting prism configured to reflect the light radiated from the optical member; and

20 a light guiding plate configured to guide the light reflected by the microreflecting prism, to the light quantity monitor.

53. The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein

the plurality of illuminants are disposed so as to
25 be set in array on double circumferences, and

the at least one optical member is disposed so as to correspond to the respective double circumferences.

54. The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the optical member includes a tapered rod in which an area of the outgoing end surface thereof is larger than an area of the incident end surface thereof.

5 55. The apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising:

a second optical member to which the light radiated from the outgoing end surfaces of the plurality of optical member are incident, wherein

10 the second optical member includes a tapered rod, the tapered rod being fixed to the illuminant substrate and having an outgoing end surface shape which is the substantially same shape as a shape of the objective illumination region.

15 56. The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the outgoing end surface of the optical member is one of a polygon and a circular in which the rotation center of the movable section serves as the center thereof.

20 57. An illumination apparatus illuminating an objective illumination region, comprising:

a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

25 an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on the circumference;

a plurality of optical member which each have

incident end surfaces and outgoing end surfaces, and which are configured to radiate the diffused light incident from the incident end surfaces and guide the diffused light to the objective illumination region;

5 a movable section configured to drive the optical member so as to be rotatable around the center of the circumference serving as a rotation center; and

 a lighting control section configured to control a light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants, wherein

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 the respective outgoing end surfaces of the plurality of optical member are in rotation symmetrical relationship with respect to the center of the circumference.

15 58. The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein the outgoing end surface of the optical member has a rectangular shape in which the sides facing the center of the circumference are the long sides.

 59. The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein

20 the incident end surface of the optical member is a rectangular shape having the long sides in a direction of arranging of the illuminants which are set in array on the illuminant substrate, and

 the outgoing end surface of the optical member has

25 a rectangular shape in which the lengths of the respective sides of the corresponding incident end surface are made longer.

60. The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein the optical member includes a tapered rod in which an area of the outgoing end surface thereof is larger than an area of the incident end surface thereof.

5 61. The apparatus according to claim 57, further comprising:

 a second optical member to which the light radiated from the outgoing end surfaces of the plurality of optical member are incident, wherein

10 the second optical member includes a tapered rod, the tapered rod being fixed to the illuminant substrate and having an outgoing end surface shape which is the substantially same shape as a shape of the objective illumination region.

15 62. The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein the outgoing end surface of the optical member is one of a polygon and a circular in which the rotation center of the movable section serves as the center thereof.

20 63. An image projection apparatus comprising:
 an illumination apparatus configured to illuminate an objective illumination region, the illumination apparatus including:

 a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

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 an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on

the circumference;

at least one optical member configured to guide the diffused light to the objective illumination region;

5 a movable section configured to drive the optical member so as to be rotatable around the center of the circumference serving as a rotation center; and

a lighting control section configured to control a light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants, wherein

10 the movable section and the lighting control section operate together such that the quantity of light per unit time of the diffused light guided to the objective illumination region is within a predetermined range;

15 a display device disposed at an objective irradiation region of the illumination apparatus; and

a projection lens configured to project an image formed at the display device on a screen.

20 64. An image projection apparatus comprising:

an illumination apparatus configured to illuminate an objective illumination region, the illumination apparatus including:

25 a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on

the circumference;

at least one optical member configured to guide the diffused light to the objective illumination region;

5 a movable section configured to drive the plurality of optical member so as to be rotatable around the center of the circumference serving as a rotation center; and

a lighting control section configured to control a light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants, wherein

the movable section and the lighting control section operate together such that an area of the light-emitting surface emitting the diffused light for the light guided to the illumination region is within a predetermined range in variations in time;

a display device disposed at an objective irradiation region of the illumination apparatus; and

a projection lens configured to project an image formed at the display device on a screen.

65. An image projection apparatus comprising:

an illumination apparatus configured to illuminate an objective illumination region, the illumination apparatus including:

25 a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

an illuminant substrate in which the

illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on
the circumference;

a plurality of optical member which each have
incident end surfaces and outgoing end surfaces, and
5 which are configured to radiate the diffused light
incident from the incident end surfaces and guide the
diffused light to the objective illumination region;

a movable section configured to drive the
optical member so as to be rotatable around the center
10 of the circumference serving as a rotation center; and

a lighting control section configured to
control a light-emitting timing of the plurality of
illuminants, wherein

the respective outgoing end surfaces of the
15 plurality of optical member are in rotation symmetrical
relationship with respect to the center of the
circumference;

a display device disposed at an objective
irradiation region of the illumination apparatus; and

20 a projection lens configured to project an image
formed at the display device on a screen.

66. An illumination apparatus illuminating an
objective illumination region, comprising:

a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting
25 surfaces radiating diffused light; and

a plurality light guiding prisms disposed in the
vicinity of the illuminant in the positional

relationship so as to be point symmetrical with respect to the center of the illuminant, wherein

the light guiding prism includes:

an incident surface configured to make the
5 outgoing light from the illuminant be incident;

a reflecting surface configured to reflect the light incident from the incident surface and guiding the light in the prism to a predetermined direction; and

10 an outgoing surface configured to radiate the light guided at the reflecting surface.

67. The apparatus according to claim 66, wherein the reflecting surface has a surface shape satisfying the conditions that the light incident from the
15 incident surface is reflected.

68. The apparatus according to claim 66, wherein reflection coating reflecting the light incident from the incident surface is applied on the reflecting surface.

20 69. The apparatus according to claim 66, wherein reflection coating is applied on surfaces which face the other light guiding prisms and which are other than the incident surface, the reflecting surface, and outgoing surface, among the surfaces structuring the
25 light guiding prism.

70. The apparatus according to claim 66, wherein a rear surface of the reflecting surface structuring the

light guiding prism has a surface shape satisfying conditions that the outgoing light from the illuminant which is not incident to the incident surface which is a surface structuring the light guiding prism is reflected.

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71. The apparatus according to claim 66, wherein reflection coating reflecting the outgoing light from the illuminant which is not incident to the incident surface which is a surface structuring the light guiding prism is applied on the rear surface of the reflecting surface structuring the light guiding prism.

10

72. An illumination apparatus illuminating an objective illumination region, comprising:

a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

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an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on the circumference;

at least one optical means for guiding the diffused light to the objective illumination region;

20

movable means for driving the optical means so as to be rotatable around the center of the circumference serving as a rotation center; and

lighting control means for controlling a light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants, wherein

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the movable means and the lighting control means

operate together such that the quantity of light per unit time of the diffused light guided to the objective illumination region is within a predetermined range.

73. An illumination apparatus illuminating an
5 objective illumination region, comprising:

a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on the
10 circumference;

at least one optical means for guiding the diffused light to the objective illumination region;

movable means for driving the plurality of optical means so as to be rotatable around the center of the
15 circumference serving as a rotation center; and

lighting control means for controlling a light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants, wherein

the movable means and the lighting control means
20 operate together such that an area of the light-emitting surface emitting the diffused light for the light guided to the illumination region is within a predetermined range in variations in time.

74. An illumination apparatus illuminating an
25 objective illumination region, comprising:

a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on the circumference;

5 a plurality of optical means which each have incident end surfaces and outgoing end surfaces, and which are for radiating the diffused light incident from the incident end surfaces and guiding the diffused light to the objective illumination region;

10 movable means for driving the optical means so as to be rotatable around the center of the circumference serving as a rotation center; and

lighting control means for controlling a light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants, wherein

15 the respective outgoing end surfaces of the plurality of optical means are in rotation symmetrical relationship with respect to the center of the circumference.

75. An image projection apparatus comprising:

20 an illumination apparatus for illuminating an objective illumination region, the illumination apparatus including:

a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

25 an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on the circumference;

at least one optical means for guiding the
diffused light to the objective illumination region;

movable means for driving the optical means
so as to be rotatable around the center of the
5 circumference serving as a rotation center; and

lighting control means for controlling a
light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants,
wherein

the movable means and the lighting control
10 means operate together such that the quantity of light
per unit time of the diffused light guided to the
objective illumination region is within a predetermined
range;

a display device disposed at an objective
15 irradiation region of the illumination apparatus; and

a projection lens for projecting an image formed
at the display device on a screen.

76. An image projection apparatus comprising:

an illumination apparatus for illuminating an
20 objective illumination region, the illumination
apparatus including:

a plurality of illuminants having light-
emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

an illuminant substrate in which the
25 illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on
the circumference;

at least one optical means for guiding the

diffused light to the objective illumination region;

movable means for driving the plurality of optical means so as to be rotatable around the center of the circumference serving as a rotation center; and

5 lighting control means for controlling a light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants, wherein

the movable means and the lighting control means operate together such that an area of the light-emitting surface emitting the diffused light for the
10 light guided to the illumination region is within a predetermined range in variations in time;

a display device disposed at an objective irradiation region of the illumination apparatus; and

15 a projection lens for projecting an image formed at the display device on a screen.

77. An image projection apparatus comprising:

an illumination apparatus for illuminating an objective illumination region, the illumination
20 apparatus including:

a plurality of illuminants having light-emitting surfaces radiating diffused light;

an illuminant substrate in which the illuminants are disposed so as to be set in array on
25 the circumference;

a plurality of optical means which each have incident end surfaces and outgoing end surfaces, and

which are for radiating the diffused light incident from the incident end surfaces and guiding the diffused light to the objective illumination region;

movable means for driving the optical means
5 so as to be rotatable around the center of the circumference serving as a rotation center; and

lighting control means for controlling a light-emitting timing of the plurality of illuminants, wherein

10 the respective outgoing end surfaces of the plurality of optical means are in rotation symmetrical relationship with respect to the center of the circumference;

a display device disposed at an objective
15 irradiation region of the illumination apparatus; and

a projection lens for projecting an image formed at the display device on a screen.